November 16, 1854.

Colonel SABINE, R.A., V.P. and Treasurer, in the Chair.

J. Lockhart Clarke, Esq., and Captain Moore, R.N., were admitted into the Society.

The following communications were read:—

I. Letter from Lieutenant MAURY to Admiral SMYTH, For. Sec. R.S.

"National Observatory, Washington,
October 21, 1854.

"SIR,—I have the honour to state, for the information of the Royal Society, that a new asteroid was discovered here by Mr. James Ferguson, Assistant Astronomer, at 11 P.M., 2nd of Sept. 1854.

"He was observing Egeria at the time, and found that, the 13th, and this, the 31st, in the field together.

"I have delayed this communication, waiting to ascertain whether the planet might not have been discovered by observers in other parts of the world; and it appearing that it had not, the priority of the discovery, therefore, belongs to the National Observatory; and this new star is added to the family of asteroids as the first representative of America among them, and a memorial of her zeal in the cause of astronomy.

"As a testimony of the high appreciation in which the talents and the industry of Mr. Ferguson are held, the honour of naming this planet was left to him. Following the rule adopted by astronomers with regard to the asteroids, he has selected the graceful name of Euphrosyne.

"Its approximate ephemeris, with the last observations, are herewith enclosed.

"I have the honour to be,

"Respectfully, &c.,

"M. F. Maury,

"*Lieut. U.S.N.*"

"*Rear-Admiral W. H. Smyth, R.N.*"

Ephemeris of Euphrosyne.

M. T. Washington.	α.	δ.
	h m s	° ′ ″
1854, Oct. 19. 9 25 41·9	1 12 15·11	−1 56 7·21

Elements of Euphrosyne, computed by Prof. Keith, from observations of Sept. 2nd, 6th and 10th.

M.	13° 36′ 33″·3	Sept. 2·721 M. T. Greenwich.
Π	352 5 50·6	M. Equ. 1854 0.
Λ	33 29 21·7	
i	22 39 13·6	
ϕ	4 22 30·2	
log a	0·469530	
log μ	2·845712	

Ephemeris for October.

M. T. Berlin.	α.	δ.	log r.	log Δ.
	h m s	° ′ ″		
1854, Oct. 19·5	1 12 0	1 59 21	0·43828	0·24622
23·5	1 7 49	1 47 29	0·43850	0·24937
27·5	1 3 49	1 33 49	0·43873	0 25345
31·5	1 0 3	1 18 18	0·43897	0·25861

II. Letter from W. Gravatt, Esq., F.R.S., to Col. Sabine, Treas. R.S.

The writer announced the arrival in London of the Swedish Calculating Machine constructed by Mr. Scheutz.